

Red Squirrel Update from Jerry Moss, Red Squirrel Ranger

Red squirrels have bred well this summer despite the wet weather. It's encouraging to hear that local people are seeing a lot of red squirrels about although there have been reports of grey squirrel sightings in this area. These are likely to be young animals looking for new territory as well as other greys slyly trying to move in. Please keep an eye out and report any grey squirrel sightings by calling me on 07736 779965 ASAP.

This autumn, Wendy Martin and the red squirrel conservation volunteers organised a fund-raising raffle. The response was brilliant and I would like to thank everyone who helped in any way, especially with the buying and selling of tickets. The draw was held on the 24th October at Shap Wells Hotel and raised a staggering £4,841. Robin Page (the vocal yokel and 'One Man and his Dog' presenter) came up from Cambridge to do the draw for us and also gave an entertaining talk. Thanks are also due to Robert Benson for announcing the winners. The money has been split between the three red squirrel groups in Cumbria (covering Eden, Westmorland and Allerdale). Every penny will benefit Cumbrian red squirrels - well done everyone!

Officers of the Management Committee for 2007 – 2008

Chairman	Mr Bill Paterson (712210)
Vice Chairman	Mr John Capstick (712574)
Treasurer	Mrs Carol Parkin (712444)
Secretary	Mrs Jean Paterson (712210)
Bookings Secretary	Mrs Joan Little (712497)
Maintenance Officer	Mr Les Watson (712658)

Other members: Anne Crofts (712676), Anne Davidson (712430), Steve Forrest, John Pinder (712684), Joke Maes, Petra Russell (712394) and Roger Gill.

LOWTHERlink

Winter 2007

***Craft Fayre:** This year's event raised just over £260. Our sincere thanks go to Mrs Noble, Mrs Emerson and Mrs Smith for their help with the refreshments. The hard work they put in at all of our events is very much appreciated by the Committee.*

***Lowther Parish Council:** It's the time of year when the Council would like to remind householders of their responsibility to keep the pavements and footpaths clear of over-hanging branches and debris. Thank you for your co-operation!*

***Youth Group:** A public meeting is to be held in the Parish Hall on Friday 14th December at 7.30 pm to find out if there is a desire to revive the Youth Club. If anyone is interested in helping to run the club please do come along.*

Newsletter

Items for inclusion in the Spring newsletter should be handed to Jean Paterson by 4th February at the latest. You can also e-mail your stories to bill@patersonherm.freeserve.co.uk or newsletter@lowtherlink.co.uk. We are still looking for a new (local) editor – please get in touch if you are interested.

Wishing all the Residents of the Parish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Dates for your Diary

WEDNESDAY CLUB: The club meets in the Parish Hall on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month from 1.30 to 3.30 pm. Please telephone Lawrence Titterington on 01931 712315 or Joan Little on 01931 712497 for further details.

LOWTHER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE: The W.I. meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month (except January) in the Parish Hall at 7.15 pm. There is a varied programme and refreshments are served. Please contact Rose Banks on 01931 712510.

LOWTHER PARENT & TODDLER GROUP: The group meets on Thursday mornings from 10.00 am until 12 noon during term time in the Parish Hall. It's a great chance to have fun and make new friends. Contact Sam Porter on 01768 361766.

LOWTHER INDOOR BOWLING CLUB meets every Tuesday evening from 7.00 to 9.00 pm. The last meeting for this session will be on 18th December. We will re-start on 8th January 2008. The cost is £2 per session including tea and biscuits. All are welcome. Contact Jean Paterson on 01931 712210 for more information.

FUN'N'FITNESS: Keep fit classes start again on 10th January 2008 at 7.15 pm. Contact Julie on 01768 890902 for information.

ROMAN RE-ENACTMENT SOCIETY: This group meets in the Parish Hall on alternate Wednesdays. For more information contact Joseph Jackson on 01931 712366.

BADMINTON CLUB meets on most Mondays evenings during the year at 7.30 pm. Contact Anne Crofts on 01931 712676 for details.

CRAFT CLASS is held on Monday evenings at 7.00 pm. Contact Lynn Robinson 01768 210205 for details.

Is your child starting school in September 2008?
Lowther Endowed School has a number of places available in reception for September. Please contact the school (01931 712 344) for a prospectus or to arrange a tour of the school.

CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE

This year the children will be presenting 'CENSUS SUMS' in the Parish Hall. Everybody is welcome to come along and enjoy this version of the Christmas Nativity.

Performances will take place on Wednesday 12th December and Thursday 13th December at 1.45 pm.

Lowther Bonus Ball Lottery

We'd like to say a big thank you to all those who have supported the Bonus Ball Lottery in 2007. Winners for October 2007 are A. Capstick, A. Hunter and W. Rigg. A profit of £70.00 was raised towards the hall restoration fund. There are still a few numbers free, so if you fancy taking part give John Capstick a call on 01931 712574. *Remember – you have to be in it to win it!*

RUBBISH: The Parish Hall Management Committee would like to remind householders in **Pattinson Close** that the dumping of items such as **mattresses** at the Recycling Centre next to the Hall is illegal. The names of **fly tippers** will be reported to Eden District Council.